

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A selective growth medium specific for *Listeria spp.* comprising, in combination,
5 lithium chloride and one or more antibiotics or salts thereof, in concentrations effective to selectively inhibit non-*Listeria* organisms while enhancing growth of *Listeria spp.*
2. The medium of claim 1, wherein the antibiotics are selected from the group
10 consisting of ceftazimide, phosphomycin, polymyxin, and nitrofurantoin.
3. The medium of claim 1, being substantially devoid of acriflavin.
4. The medium of claim 1, further comprising esculin.
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5. The medium of claim 1, wherein the lithium chloride is present in a concentration of from about 1 g/L to about 10 g/L.
6. The medium of claim 5, wherein the lithium chloride is present in a concentration of
20 from about 5 g/L.
7. The medium of claim 2, wherein the nitrofurantoin is present in a concentration of from about .001 g/L to about 0.01g/L.
- 25 8. The medium of claim 7, wherein the nitrofurantoin is present in a concentration of about .006 g/L.

9. A selective and differential medium for *Listeria spp.* comprising an agar base layer substantially devoid of, acriflavin, the base layer containing lithium chloride, a growth enhancer of *Listeria spp.*, and antibiotics or salts thereof in concentrations effective to selectively inhibit non-*Listeria* organisms.

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10. The medium of claim 9, wherein the growth enhancer comprises an iron-containing compound.

11. The medium of claim 10, wherein the growth enhancer is ferric ammonium citrate.

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12. The medium of claim 9, wherein the antibiotics are selected from the group consisting of ceftazimide, phosphomycin, polymyxin, and nitrofurantoin.

13. The medium of claim 12, wherein the polymyxin is polymyxin E.

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14. A *Listeria spp.*-selective medium comprising, in combination, tryptone, peptone, sodium chloride, dibasic potassium phosphate, yeast extract, cyclohexamide, naladixic acid, ferric ammonium citrate, and esculin, in concentrations effective to promote growth of *Listeria spp.*

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15. The medium of claim 14, further comprising, in combination, ceftazimide, phosphomycin, polymyxin E, lithium chloride, and nitrofurantoin in concentrations effective to inhibit growth of non-*Listeria* organisms.

- 25 16. The medium of claim 14, the medium being substantially devoid of acriflavin.

17. The medium of claim 14, wherein the tryptone concentration is about 17.0 g/L.

18. The medium of claim 14, wherein the peptone concentration is about 3.0 g/L.

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19. The medium of claim 14, wherein the sodium chloride concentration is about 5.0 g/L.
20. The medium of claim 14, wherein the dibasic potassium phosphate concentration is about 6.0 g/L.
21. The medium of claim 14, wherein the yeast extract concentration is about 6.0 g/L.
22. The medium of claim 14, wherein the cyclohexamide concentration is about 0.05 g/L.
23. The medium of claim 14, wherein the naladixic acid concentration is about 0.04 g/L.
24. The medium of claim 14, wherein the esculin concentration is about 1.0 g/L.
25. The medium of claim 15, wherein the ceftazimide concentration is about 0.04 g/L.
26. The medium of claim 15, wherein the phosphomycin concentration is about 0.04 g/L.
27. The medium of claim 15, wherein the polymyxin E concentration is about 0.01 g/L.
28. The medium of claim 14, wherein the ferric ammonium citrate concentration is about 0.5 g/L.
29. The medium of claim 15, wherein the lithium chloride concentration is about 5.0 g/L.

30. The medium of claim 15, wherein the nitrofurantoin concentration is about .006 g/L.

- 5 31. A *Listeria spp.*-selective medium comprising, in combination,
- a. tryptone, in a concentration of about 17.0 g/L;
 - b. peptone, in a concentration of about 3.0 g/L;
 - c. sodium chloride, in a concentration of about 5.0 g/L,
 - d. anhydrous dibasic potassium phosphate, in a concentration of about 6.0 g/L;
 - 10 e. yeast extract, in a concentration of about 6.0 g/L;
 - f. cyclohexamide, in a concentration of about 0.05 g/L;
 - g. naladixic acid, in a concentration of about 0.04 g/L;
 - h. esculin, in a concentration of about 1.0 g/L;
 - i. ceftazimide, in a concentration of about 0.04 g/L;
 - 15 j. phosphomycin, in a concentration of about 0.04 g/L;
 - k. polymyxin E, in a concentration of about 0.01 g/L;
 - l. ferric ammonium citrate, in a concentration of about 0.5 g/L;
 - m. lithium chloride, in a concentration of about 5.0 g/L; and
 - n. nitrofurantoin, in a concentration of about 0.006 g/L.

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